

Greenfield, MA Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman recently awarded \$1.7 million

 "Whether its farmers forming new co-ops to process their crops into value-added products

 Recipients of the grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture are cooperative development

 The grant assistance in Massachusetts was provided to the Cooperative Development Institute

 Congressman Olver remarked, "Co-ops have proven to be a successful way for individuals

 "Agricultural and other rural co-ops will become increasingly vital as more federal farm programs

 "The cooperative concept is very basic: one person alone -- both as a consumer and producer

 The development funding is being provided by the Rural Cooperative Development Grant program

 In addition to the grant program, USDA Rural Development also offers a number of direct loan

For more information about USDA Rural Development programs, connect to our website at www.usda.gov

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Amherst, MA 01002

USDA CO-OP GRANTS "OPEN DOORS OF RURAL OPPORTUNITY"

October 23, 1998

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